



PROGRESS REPORT NO. 90

TO: Dr. Laura Buelow – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email
Matt Wilkening – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email

FROM: Kris McCaig – Teck American Incorporated (TAI)

DATE: January 9, 2014

FILE NO: 01-773180-000

RE: Upper Columbia River (UCR) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
(RI/FS) - Progress Report No. 90 Month Ending December 2013

Pursuant to Paragraph 39 of the June 2, 2006 Settlement Agreement (Agreement), the following is intended to provide a summary of activities completed during the past month in compliance with the aforementioned Agreement. It is also intended to provide a brief summary of pending and on-going activities.

Phase 2 Sediment Study field sampling activities commenced at the beginning of September and were completed on October 24, 2013. Sediment and porewater chemistry analysis is complete and data are being validated by Environmental Standards, Inc. TAI submitted a proposed bioassay batching scheme to EPA via email on December 11, 2013. EPA approved the scheme via email on December 20, 2013. All bioassay sediment samples were shipped to TAI's contract bioassay laboratory and split samples were relinquished to EPA for shipment to U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) in Vicksburg, MS. Bioassays are planned to start in January 2014.

TAI is in receipt of the June 14, 2013 letter from EPA with comments on the Draft Assessment of Sediment Toxicity to White Sturgeon Data Summary Report and are reviewing and evaluating the comments. The Draft Final report will be submitted to EPA in January 2014.

TAI is in receipt of the July 3, 2013 letter from EPA with comments on the Draft Bossburg Flat Beach Refined Sediment Study Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). EPA and TAI entered into a dispute over three issues in the comments which were resolved and documented in the letter from EPA to TAI on December 20, 2013. TAI is working on response to EPA comments and revision of the QAPP due to EPA by February 6, 2014.

Based on a meeting with EPA and the Citizens for Clean Columbia (CCC) on August 21, 2013 and TAI's receipt the September 18, 2013 letter and final data quality objective (DQO) memorandum from EPA, TAI instructed the chemistry laboratory to retrieve archived sediment, collected from beaches in 2011, from storage and re-analyze them in accordance with the EPA-approved 2009 Beach Sediment Study QAPP. Analysis was completed and validated data were transmitted to EPA on December 13, 2013.

TAI submitted the Draft Soil Study quality assurance project plan (QAPP) and response to EPA's soil level of effort paper on September 12, 2013. The document is accessible to registered users via the secure domain of the project website (www.ucr-rifs.com) as well. TAI provided comments as requested by EPA on their draft residential sampling notification flier.

TAI is in receipt of the September 27, 2013 letter from EPA with comments on the Draft Final Beach Sediment Study Field Sampling and Data Summary Report and are reviewing and evaluating comments.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 509-623-4501.